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RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
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RUEHAK/USDAO ANKARA TU PRIORITY

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SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [TU](#) [IZ](#)
SUBJECT: TURKISH PARLIAMENT EXTENDS AUTHORITY FOR CROSS
BORDER OPERATIONS IN IRAQ

REF: ANKARA 01391

[11](#). (U) On October 6 the Turkish Parliament approved a one-year extension to perform cross border operations in Iraq. Out of the 475 Ministers of Parliament who voted on the motion, 452 voted in favor. All twenty-one members of DTP, the pro-Kurdish Democratic Society Party. The one-year time line begins October 17.

[12](#). (U) Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said that, "The government is determined to implement the Kurdish initiative package in the near future. The extension of the Cross-Border Operation motion will contribute to these efforts. We will maintain our multi-dimensional, diplomatic and military politics in order to eliminate the terror problem. Our aim is to establish a sustainable security environment in which there will be no need for similar motions."

Comment

[13](#). (SBU) This approval was widely expected, but does not/not represent any change in policy nor does it signal preparations for the Turkish military to conduct a major cross-border strike. Top-level support in the Turkish General Staff for the whole-of-government "Kurdish initiative" remains strong.

JEFFREY

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